(c) and (d). The overall supply of coal to these thermal power stations has been adequate, excpet to Satpura Thermal Power Station. The Ministry of Coal have issue instructions to Western Coalfields Ltd. to step up supply to Satpura Thermal Power Stations. Some supplies were also arranged from South Eastern Coalfied Ltd. to make up for the shortfall in Satpura Thermal Power Station.

**Diesel Shed in Samastipur**

5559. SHRI MANJAY LAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether approval for the construction of diesel shed in Samastipur of North Eastern Railway was accorded in 1990-91;

(b) if so, the reasons for not starting this unit; and

(c) when it is likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). On review, expansion of Gonda diesel shed has been found more economical and urgently required on operational considerations. The proposal for the diesel shed at Samastipur has been held in abeyance for the present.

[*English*]

**Crash of Boeing 737 near Imphal**

5560. SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the causes of the air accidents in the past and the present accident of Boeing 737 crashed near Imphal on August 16, 1991 are also on the line of earlier crashes; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to tone up the working and functioning of the airlines to ensure safety of the travelling passengers and to check such accidents in future?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) The cause of the Imphal air crash will be established only after the Court of Inquiry has investigated it.

(b) Foremost priority is attached to the safety of operations of the airlines and no effort is spared in the enforcement of safety standards.

**Air Accidents**

5561. SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether majority of the air accidents take place at the time of landing or taking off aircraft;

(b) if so, the number of accidents took place while landing and taking off in the last three years;

(c) the reasons for such accidents; and

(d) the steps taken to check such accidents?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b). During the last three years, there were 48 accidents to civilian aircraft, of which 23 took place during landing or take-off phases.

(c) Of the 23 accidents, investigation has been completed in 19, It is found that 17 of these accidents took place due to pilot

error, one due to weather, and one due to the presence of a bull on the runway In the 17 accidents mainly attributable to pilot error, maintenance of aircraft was a contributing factor in two cases and weather was a contributing factor in two other cases.

(d) Measures for enhancing the level of air safety are continuously taken, like implementation of the recommendations emanating from investigations of aircraft accidents and hazardous incidents, dissemination of safety information, monitoring of Cockpit Voice Recorders, and Flight Data Recorders, monitoring flight crew proficiency and periodic inspection of aerodromes.

**Earnings from Sahibganj to Jahajghat and Sakri to Jahajghat Railway Lines**

5562. SHRI SIMON MARANDI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of goods transported through the railway line laid between Sahibganj to Jahajghat and between Sakri to Jahajghat in Sahibganj district and the extent of income earned there from during the last three years;

(b) the expenditure incurred in laying the said lines; and

(c) the steps being taken to make those lines more remunerative?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) The branch lines from Sahibganj Jn. and Sakrigali Jn. to Sakrigalighat popularly known as Jahajghat has been closed for over ten years and there has been no goods traffic and the earnings therefrom on this line.

(b) The expenditure incurred on laying these lines is not available, as they were laid more than 50 years ago.

(c) Does not arise.

**Transportation of Grit in Bihar**

5563. SHRI SIMON MARANDI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the length of rail line laid to transport grit of black stones in Pakud, Bakudih, Maharajganj of Bihar and Rampur Hat and Murarai areas of West Bengal, the date on which this line become operational and the quantity of grit transported so far;

(b) the year-wise amount of freight received by the Government thereon;

(c) whether it is proposed to lay another rail line in the area in near future; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) to (d). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

[*Translation*]

**Overbridge at Maksi**

5564. SHRI PHOOL CHAND VERMA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is heavy rush of traffic on a railway crossing at Maksi (Madhya Pradesh) on Agra-Bombay road;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to construct an overbridge on the railway crossing there;

(c) if so, by what time; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?